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July 24, 1961

Mr. S. S. Kresge
Mountainhome, Pa.

Dear Mr. Kresge:

You will be interested in knowing that we hosted a meeting last Thursday to discuss informally the steps that can be taken to curtail Sunday selling by general merchandise retailers throughout the country.

At the suggestion of Phil Schindel, Executive Director of the Variety Stores Association, we invited representatives of Sears Roebuck, Montgomery Ward, J. C. Penney, S. H. Kress, F. W. Woolworth and G. C. Murphy, to see what could be done to stimulate legislative action in the various states. As you will note by the attached memorandum, all companies accepted. The Kresge Company was represented by Messrs. Sturges, Fairbanks and Walters. I did not attend the meeting except to open it with a few comments, copy of which is attached.

It was the general consensus of this group that the chain store organizations can work most effectively by staying in the background and supporting the efforts of local people in instigating preventive legislation. While we may not be able to accomplish a great deal this year, we are going to work through the various local retail organizations to encourage sentiment for laws that will stop (or at least slow down) the present trend toward more and more Sunday openings by all types of retailers.

In this connection, you will be interested in reading copies of recent correspondence with Bob Kirkwood of the Woolworth Company regarding their position on Sunday openings.

We will continue to do everything in our power to oppose Sunday selling. I sincerely hope that it will not be necessary for us to open any more Kresge stores on Sunday afternoon during the fall and Christmas season.

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